CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims 1, 6-11, 13-14, and 16-20 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A toggle switch cover apparatus, comprising:

a bushing for a toggle switch, wherein said bushing comprises a threaded area and an uppermost unthreaded area, wherein said uppermost unthreaded area comprises a maximum outside diameter that is less than a corresponding minor diameter of threads of a mounting nut; and

said ~~a~~ mounting nut surrounding said uppermost unthreaded area of said bushing, wherein a gap is formed between said mounting nut and said bushing, thereby promoting proper alignment of said toggle switch thereof and decreasing cross-threading issues.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said toggle switch further comprises a toggle, wherein a portion of said toggle is surrounded by said mounting nut and said bushing.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said mounting nut is positionable on said bushing in said uppermost unthreaded area thereof in a plane perpendicular to an axis of said bushing prior to a threading of said mounting nut onto said bushing

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said bushing comprises a plurality of threads for engaging corresponding mating threads of said mounting nut.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said corresponding minor diameter of threads of said mounting nut comprises a minimum minor diameter of said threads of said mounting nut.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said ~~toggle comprises a tab lever~~ bushing is positioned above a base portion, wherein said base portion is located above a supporting portion.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said ~~toggle comprises a pull-to-unlock lever~~ uppermost unthreaded area comprises a lead-in portion.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~toggle switch comprises a 2-position toggle switch~~ mounting nut is positionable over said bushing.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein ~~said toggle switch comprises a 3-positon toggle switch~~ a length of said uppermost unthreaded area depends upon a size of said mounting nut.

10. (Currently Amended) A toggle switch cover apparatus, comprising:

a toggle switch comprising a toggle;

a bushing associated with said toggle switch, wherein said bushing comprises a threaded area and an uppermost unthreaded area, wherein said uppermost unthreaded area comprises a maximum outside diameter that is less than a corresponding minimum minor diameter of threads of a mounting nut;

said ~~a~~ mounting nut surrounding said uppermost unthreaded area of said bushing, wherein a gap is formed between said mounting nut and said bushing and a portion of said toggle is surrounded by said mounting nut and said bushing; and

wherein said mounting nut is positionable on said bushing in said uppermost unthreaded area thereof in a plane perpendicular to an axis of said bushing prior to

a threading of said mounting nut onto said bushing, thereby promoting proper alignment of said toggle switch thereof and decreasing cross-threading issues.

11. (Currently Amended) A toggle switch cover method, comprising:

providing a bushing for a toggle switch, wherein said bushing comprises a threaded area and an uppermost unthreaded area, wherein said uppermost unthreaded area comprises a maximum outside diameter that is less than a corresponding minor diameter of threads of a mounting nut; and

locating said ~~a~~ mounting nut about said uppermost unthreaded area of said bushing, wherein a gap is formed between said mounting nut and said bushing, thereby promoting proper alignment of said toggle switch thereof and decreasing cross-threading issues.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said toggle switch further comprises a toggle, wherein a portion of said toggle is surrounded by said mounting nut and said bushing.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of positioning said mounting nut on said bushing in said uppermost unthreaded area thereof in a plane perpendicular to an axis of said bushing prior to a threading of said mounting nut onto said bushing

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of configuring ~~wherein~~ said bushing to comprise ~~comprises~~ a plurality of threads for engaging corresponding mating threads of said mounting nut.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said corresponding minor diameter of threads of said mounting nut comprises a minimum minor diameter of said threads of said mounting nut.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of ~~wherein said toggle comprises a tab lever~~ positioning said bushing above a base portion, wherein said base portion is located above a supporting portion.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein said ~~toggle comprises a pull-to-unlock lever~~ uppermost unthreaded area comprises a lead-in portion.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of ~~wherein said toggle switch comprises a 2-position toggle switch~~ positioning said mounting nut over said bushing.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein ~~said toggle switch comprises a 3-positon toggle switch~~ a length of said uppermost unthreaded area depends upon a size of said mounting nut.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of configuring said bushing to comprise a diameter in a range of at least ¼ inches to 15/32 inches.